

*Sponsored by Blair Cluster of Parent-Teacher Associations of the Montgomery County Public Schools*

## **Candidate Forum for Montgomery County Board of Education**

October 15, 2008

7:00-8:30pm

Takoma Park Municipal Center

7500 Maple Avenue

Takoma Park, MD

20912

### **Moderator: Eric Bonds, Editor of Takoma Voice**

Five candidates are running for three positions on the Montgomery County Board of Education. Candidates are:

At-large: Tommy Le and Phil Kauffman

District 2 (Rockville): Stephen Abrams and Laura Berthiaume

District 5 (Takoma Park/Silver Spring): Christopher Barclay, unopposed

All candidates have been invited to the forum.

## **Background**

The Board of Education is composed of eight members - five who must reside in the districts that they represent and two at large members who may live anywhere in the county. Elections for Board of Education are non-partisan, terms are for 4 years, and there are no term limits. In addition, there is one student member elected for a one year term by middle and high school students.

Three seats will be filled in the general election in November. Candidates are running for one at-large seat and for two seats that represent districts. All voters, regardless of the district in which they reside, may vote for one at-large candidate and one candidate from each district.

## **Duties**

Members of the Board of Education determine and enforce policies that govern the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). Among other responsibilities, the Board of Education appoints the Superintendent of Schools; initiates, reviews and discusses educational issues; reviews and submits to the County Council annual capital and operating budgets; and receives funding from county, state and federal sources.